Lakeland Book of the Year Awards 2026

Terms and Conditions

1. The book must have been published between 1st January 2025 and 30th December 2025.

2. The author of the book should have strong Cumbrian connections, **or** the book itself should have a majority of Cumbrian content.

3. Books can be entered by publishers, agents, or by individual authors.

4. The deadline for entries is the 31st January 2026.

5. There are six categories. Please study them carefully, to make sure that your entry is suitable. **We have, at present, no award for children's books or e-books.** Lakeland Book of the Year Awards take no responsibility for books that are ineligible and they can't be returned to you. Categories are:

Landscape and Tradition
Illustration and Presentation
People and Business
Literature and Poetry
Guides and Places
Fiction

There is also an overall prize, the Hunter Davies Book of the Year Award, chosen by the judges.

6. The judges will decide on a longlist in May and a shortlist in June. These will be displayed on the website and shared on social media. All listed authors and publishers will be contacted and invited to the prize-giving in July.

7.The judges' decision is final. No correspondence will be entered into under any circumstances.

8. Please send 4 (four) copies of each book, accompanied by an entry form, to Lakeland Book of the Year Awards, 2 Mardale Road, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 9DG, to arrive no later than 31st January 2026.

www.lakelandbookoftheyear.co.uk